

## Why Do We Remember Revere's Ride the Way We Do?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

There may not be one simple explanation as to why Paul Revere's ride has achieved such fame and status. Thinking about a number of possible reasons might help you develop a hypothesis or educational guess.

### Directions:

Rank the following hypotheses from 1 to 9, with 1 being the most likely reason and 9 being the least likely. (Use each number once.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Because it was a very important event in the American Revolution.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because the event occurred on the first day of fighting in the American Revolutionary War.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because Revere demonstrated exceptional bravery and resourcefulness.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because Longfellow's poem became very well known and famous.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because people started telling the story to their children and it was passed down through the generations.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because Revere was already such a well known personality due to his support of the patriot's cause as well as his fine silversmith work.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because within the event were many images that people remember, for example, the Red coats — even if Revere never actually said, “The Red coats are coming”; “two if by sea”) that have become important national symbols.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because in 1861, at the time the poem was published, the nation had a need for something to help unify it.

\_\_\_\_\_ Because in 1861, at the time the poem was published, few were alive who had first-hand knowledge of the event and people were nostalgic for the “good old days.”

Did your top responses tend to be about the actual event, Paul Revere himself, or Longfellow's poem and its impact?

Would you add any reasons of your own? If yes, what?